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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/086,773	CONTI ET AL.
	Examiner Peggy A. Neils	Art Unit 2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed October 27, 2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,5,6,9-19 and 21-39.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

5. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 5, 6, 9-19 and 21-39 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claim 1 and those claims which depend from Claim 1 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 1 sets forth an elongate flexible wire-formed light source having a flexible translucent sheathing thereabout with an elongate flexible covering comprising an elongate rope having an axially extending opening through which the light source extends. The prior art did not show or suggest a rope having an axial opening through which the light source extends. Claim 17 and those claims which depend from Claim 17 are allowable over the prior art because the claim sets forth an elongate flexible wire formed light source with an elongate flexible sheathing extending thereabout, and an elongate covering extending about the light source the covering comprising an elongate rope having an axially extending opening through which the light source extends with a first and second connector connected to each end of the covering. This combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art. Claim 30 and those claims which depend from Claim 30 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 30 sets forth an elongate flexible wire formed light source having an elongate flexible translucent sheathing thereabout and an elongate flexible covering extending about the light source the covering comprising an elongate tension resisting member extending about the light source and an elongate flexible translucent tube having a central bore through which the tension resisting member and the light source extend. This combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any questions regarding this Office action should be directed to Examiner Neils at (571) 272-2377.

Y. My Quach-Lee

Y. MY QUACH-LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER